

addition he has made to the tapestry of our lives through broadcasting—both music and community interest programming—composing, promoting Hispanic talent, and finally obtaining and operating the Lopez Broadcast System that now consists of several South Texas radio stations.

His introduction to radio came in 1955, while he was still in high school, conducting the American GI Forum Weekly Program on KCCT in Corpus Christi, TX. After graduation he continued this work he loved, and it took him all over south Texas and northern Mexico. In the early 1960s, he moved the family to San Antonio, where he branched out to television, and worked in the first U.S. Spanish Radio station, KCOR, and the first U.S. Spanish Television station, (KWEX).

His voice won him voice-over roles in some classic American movies—for voices of Spencer Tracy, Sidney Poitier, Anthony Quinn, and many more—and he dubbed several Hollywood movies into Spanish for broadcast into Mexico and Latin America. For his work in this venue, Humberto picked up an award for "Best Performance in Dubbing."

In the early 1970s, he returned to live in Robstown and work in Corpus Christi. He began as program director for KCCT, spicing up the classic station with a new motto, "Radio Jalapeno—Caliente." While in Corpus Christi, he worked for a while in print journalism for the Corpus Christi Sun Newspaper, as sales manager and columnist.

In the early 1980s, he longed to put his management skills and talent to use in a larger sphere, and applied with the FCC to own his own station. He quickly began acquiring radio stations in South Texas under the Lopez Broadcast System, which currently includes: KTMV-TV, Corpus Christi; KTMV-TV, Victoria (UPN affiliate); KTMV-TV, San Antonio; KMIQ 104.9 FM, Robstown-Corpus Christi; KINE 1330 AM Robstown-Kingsville; KXTM 107.7 FM, Benavidez; KHMC 95.5 FM, Victoria; and KLMO 98.9 FM, San Antonio. He continues to explore expanding Lopez Broadcast System into other markets such as College Station, San Angelo, and Houston.

Humberto's most memorable experiences included interviewing the widow of Mexican legend, Pancho Villa; Texas' first Hispanic Congressman, Henry B. Gonzalez; and the members of Battalion 201, the World War II Mexican Battalion. Easily, his most rewarding experience is the continuing success of the Lopez Broadcast System, which serves our home community in South Texas. Humberto's philosophy is: "It's not about how much money someone may earn but the accomplishments and lives you touch—which leaves a legacy of hope."

He is supported by the love of his life, his wife Minerva Rodriguez-Lopez; their children: Mario Humberto, Luis Homero, Larry, Manuel, Carlos, Humberto II, Ernesto, Mena Lamar, Melinda, Ray, Lisa, and Mary Helen; their 27 grandchildren—Mario Humberto II, Michael Anthony, Marissa, Celina, Carissa, Crista, Lizette, Lynsey, Ashley Nicole, Manuel Omar, Mireya, Alejandro, Gabriella, Laura Lynn, Carlos Eric, Crystal, Katherine, Ernesto Nicholas, Raul Jr., MiaMar Minerva, Isabella, Giselle Fey, Cristian Esai, Ray Jr., Amy Desiree, Nayeli, and Orlando DeLeon II; and their 2 great grandchildren, Mario Humberto III, and Michael Anthony.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending my dear friend, Humberto

Lozano Lopez, for the amazing achievement so far in his lifetime and for his recent induction into the Tejano Hall of Fame.

HONORING THE BALLOU SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the District's own Ballou Senior High School Marching Band for its recent extraordinary achievement at the Home Depot National Battle of the Bands Competition. The band, numbering 86 members, placed second among eight bands in a competition which included 110 entrants in the initial field. Ballou deserves recognition from the House of Representatives not only because of this notable accomplishment. I ask the Congress to recognize the Ballou Marching Band also because these students, led by their able and devoted band director, Darrell Watson, overcame nearly impossible odds.

The high school is located in one of the city's most disadvantaged and besieged communities. The students have lived with unusual human tragedy, including the fatal shooting of two fellow students this year. Also in 2003, the school was closed for more than a month because of an accidental mercury spill. At the end of the school year, many of the problems of the school were blamed on allegations of poor leadership and the principal was dismissed.

This is not an atmosphere conducive to producing award winning bands. Yet, the Ballou Marching Band's band director and the new principal, Daniel Hudson, persevered. However, talent, intelligence, diligence and dedication could not cover the \$70,000 needed to travel to California to compete. The often struggling families of the students, and their inner-city community certainly did not have such funds. Still, the band and their school did not give up. They sought help from the business community, alumni and others. Many were moved by the determination of the students. Among the many contributors who made the trip possible were Federal Express—inspired by a Ballou alumna who was a vice president—Lockheed Martin, Embassy Suites Hotels, and William C. Smith and Company. The outpouring of love and support that the Ballou band received was inspired not only by the need, but by the students' own determination and efforts in doing car washes and selling dinners to earn funds for the trip.

The concrete show of confidence in these children enabled the band's participation and its prize-winning finish. In fact, the competition was razor close, and Ballou almost came away with the top prize. Its reward was a trip to Disneyland and the opportunity to play in the holiday parade. The larger and lasting reward is the sense of accomplishment the students received and the opportunity to broaden their horizons and expectations concerning where hard work and high aspirations can lead. On a visit to the school, I was moved to see the effect of the band's achievements on the entire student body, which gathered to celebrate the band with principal, teachers and staff all present. The band director, Darrell

Watson, spoke of the numerous compliments he received, including words of praise concerning the exemplary behavior of the members of the band. Principal Hudson is leading the students to transfer the band's achievement to academic achievement as well for the student body.

I am proud that the band represented the city so well and proud to represent the band, the school, and the community in the Congress of the United States. Last week I wrote to President Bush to ask that the Ballou Band march in the upcoming Inaugural Parade. Considering what the band has achieved and the obstacles the students have overcome, I believe that the band and the school deserve this national recognition. Mr. Speaker, the Ballou Senior High School Marching Band deserves the accolades the band is receiving since returning from California. I ask the House of Representatives to add its own congratulations as well.

HONORING MARCELLUS'S GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary group of athletes, the Marcellus Girls Varsity Soccer team. Marcellus captured its second consecutive Section 3, Class B state title with a 6 to 0 win over Fredonia, ending their season with an overall record of 23–1–1.

The Marcellus Mustangs lived up to their season long No. 1 ranking with a decisive victory over Fredonia led by senior striker Jenna Farneti scoring three goals and two assists. Amy Ware and Hannah Vaughn struck the final blows to the nails in the coffin adding three more goals with Meghan Mannion and Alyssa MacLachlan contributing the assists.

While acknowledging these five, outstanding athletes for their efforts in the championship game is well deserved; any member of a team knows that victory isn't possible without the contributions of all team members and coaches.

Coach Laurie Updike, Jenna Farneti, Rachel Farneti, Stephanie Gosson, Kelly Hanlon, Sarah Holden, Jocie Jankowski, Alyssa MacLachlan, Meghan Mannion, Ashley Martin, Lauren Longo, Alyse O'Brien, Sarah Potter, Catherine Scott, Amanda Stessen, Hannah Vaughn, Katie Walter, Amy Ware, Jennifer Young, Katie Young, Katie Zimmerman, Emily Zimmerman, Emmy Potter, Meghan Kaminska are all equally valued components of the Marcellus perennial powerhouse.

A special recognition is also deserved to those whom support Marcellus's fine athletes, the parents, teachers, students and fans. You were all instrumental in the Mustang's success.

I commend the Marcellus Girls Varsity Soccer team for their dedication and congratulate them on a triumphant season. Your continued success reflects your tireless work ethic.

Congratulations to the Champs.